

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/510,628

Confirmation No. 4179

Applicant: Hegemann et al.

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Examiner: Stacy Nee MacFarlane

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Customer No.: 23460

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 19, 2007, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 7 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.